



2025 ONIZUKA DAY SPECIAL EVENTS

MEET NASA ASTRONAUT DOMINIC ANTONELLI



Dominic Antonelli was selected as a NASA pilot in 2000 and completed 18 months of intensive training and evaluation as an Astronaut Candidate. Following this, he contributed to various technical assignments supporting the Astronaut Office. A veteran of two spaceflights, Antonelli has spent over 24 days in space.

In March 2009, Antonelli piloted his first space mission, STS-119, aboard Space Shuttle Discovery. This mission successfully delivered the S6 Integrated Truss Segment and the final pair of power-generating solar array wings to the International Space Station (ISS).

Antonelli later served as the pilot for STS-132 aboard Space Shuttle Atlantis (May 14–26, 2010), marking the 32nd Shuttle flight to the ISS. This mission transported an Integrated Cargo Carrier and a Russian-built Mini Research Module to the Station. Over the course of the mission, the crew completed 186 orbits, covering 4,879,978 miles in just under 12 days.

Before his career at NASA, Antonelli served as a fleet Naval Aviator and Landing Signal Officer aboard the USS Nimitz with the Blue Diamonds, Strike Fighter Squadron VFA-146. During this time, he flew F/A-18C Hornets in support of Operation Southern Watch. He accumulated over 3,200 flight hours in 41 different aircraft types and completed 273 carrier-arrested landings.

Antonelli is a Distinguished Graduate of the U.S. Air Force Test Pilot School and has received numerous accolades, including the Navy Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, NASA Exceptional Achievement Medal, and the NASA Return-to-Flight Award, among others.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Aeronautics and Astronautics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a Master of Science in Aeronautics and Astronautics from the University of Washington.

Hear NASA Astronaut Dominic Antonelli speak about his thrilling experiences in space at 9:30 in the ACM building auditorium. An exclusive meet and greet with this distinguished astronaut will follow the presentation.

Limited seating will be available on a first come, first served basis. The waiting line will form outside the ACM building. The presentation will also be shown on the large screen outside the ACM building.

NOAA INFLATABLE WHALE



The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will bring an inflatable juvenile humpback whale. It is 45 feet long and 32 feet wide.

Attendees will be able to tour inside and learn more about whale anatomy and structure. You will see how humans share some interesting similarities with whales. Tours will include the outside of the whale and general Hawaiian Humpback Whale information too. There will be fun and interesting items like a cross section of baleen.

NOAA will also have an educational table where everyone can learn, play games, and win fun prizes. NOAA fisheries will have a table near the whale with hands-on activities.

BIG TIRE BOOTCAMP

Join us for an exhilarating showcase of the Big Tire Bootcamp, the only adaptive fitness program in Hawaii. Designed to be inclusive and fun for all ages and fitness levels, our unique challenge course brings to life 10 different fitness stations featuring battling ropes, sledgehammer tire hits, tire flips, sandbags, and much more!

Safe, engaging, and perfect for everyone from elementary school children to adult. Each station is designed to enhance strength, agility, and endurance in a fun and supportive environment. Join us out on the Great Lawn for some challenging fun!

VEX ROBOTICS TOURNAMENT

VEX IQ robotics for students in grades 4-8, is the largest scholastic robotics program in Hawaii with 153 teams in the current year. 18 Hawaii teams are competing in the World Championships in Dallas, Texas. Each year the game challenge changes which fosters students learning and practicing engineering design, computer programming, and life skills like teamwork and problem solving.

Join us in room C-208 and cheer on the 20 teams as they try to score points by collecting and launching plastic pucks. Want to start a robotics program at your school or your scout unit? Find out what grants are available and how to get started.

GATEBALL ROBOTICS CHALLENGE

For the first time in the world, a modified Gateball game will be played by robots. What is Gateball? Use a mallet and try to hit balls through the Gate. Cheer for students and adults using robots to play a modified Gateball game in exciting one vs one challenges.

BIG KAHUNA CHESS TOURNAMENT

80 Proficient Chess Players Needed! Do you have what it takes to walk away with the BIG KAHUNA GRAND TROPHY? Is the Big Kahuna Chess Tournament on your bucket list for ODE? Which Chess Piece is your greatest ally? Only the best will make it to the finals. You have 5 rounds, single elimination. Who said age is a number when it comes to chess?

Sign-up today (80 slots will go fast). Register at www.onizukaday.com. Walk-ins accepted on first come, first serve basis. 2 Players per table. 25 minutes per game. 5 rounds of single elimination games. No sudden death points per piece.

BIG KAHUNA is for ages 8 thru 17 in sessions A, B, C, and D
KEIKI KAHUNA is for ages 7 thru 10 in session E.

Session A. 9:00 am. BIG KAHUNA. Ages 8 thru 17

Session B. 9:30 am BIG KAHUNA. Ages 8 thru 17

Session C 10 am. BIG KAHUNA. Ages 8 thru 17

Session D 10:30 am. BIG KAHUNA. Ages 8 thru 17

Session E. 11 am. KEIKI KAHUNA. Ages 7 thru 10 only

Places of finalists will be determined during final runoff from 2:30 to 3:00pm.

Every player will receive a participation ribbon. Finalists will receive trophies. Announcement of winners will be at 3:00. You must be present to win.

HCTM WORKSHOPS

The Hawai'i Council of Teachers of Mathematics (HCTM) aims to provide teachers with opportunities to exchange ideas and materials regarding mathematics instruction. HCTM seeks to further the cooperative study of ideas related to mathematics teaching at the elementary, secondary, and college levels. Through these efforts, the HCTM strives to enhance mathematics education by promoting collaboration, sharing resources, and supporting professional development opportunities for educators. The HCTM workshops are open to adult ODE participants.